

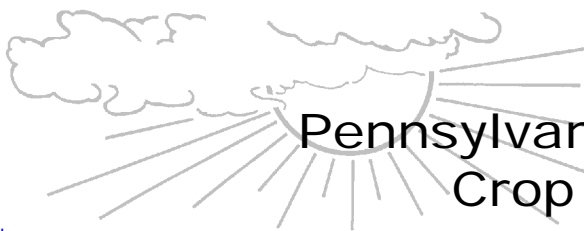


United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

NASS

Pennsylvania Agricultural
Statistics Service
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Pennsylvania: Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending August 13, 2000

Fair Week for Field Work: There were 4.1 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Activities included harvesting small grains, potatoes, apples, peaches, and vegetables; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; spreading lime and fertilizers; repairing buildings; hauling and spreading manure; caring for livestock; baling straw; making hay and haylage; trimming brush and spraying crops.

Crops: Corn condition continued to be mostly good to excellent throughout the state. Overall, the corn crop was 1 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 85 percent good to excellent. Conditions in some areas were not as good in low lying fields. The corn crop still needs more warm weather to grow and mature. Statewide, 81 percent of the corn crop tasseled, 5 percentage points behind the 5-year average. The percentage of the corn acreage in the dough stage was 45 percent. Soybean condition was mostly good to excellent. Oat harvest continued with variable yields. Potato harvest was just beginning. Potato growers were continuing to spray in some areas for late blight and insect control. Cutting of hay continues at a normal pace. The quality of hay made was mostly fair to good last week. Fourth cutting of alfalfa was started in some areas.

Livestock: Pasture condition state-wide was mostly fair to good, with mostly good re-growth. Conditions were variable with 26 percent of pastures rated poor to fair, 62 percent good and 12 percent excellent. Overall the quality of Pennsylvania pastures improved slightly since last week.

Fruit & Vegetables: By week's end, 46 percent of the State's peach acreage was harvested, 5 percentage points ahead of normal. Apple harvest was 18 percent completed, slightly ahead of the average. Damp weather has caused some problems with fruit. The vegetable crops were reported to be in good condition. However, there is a need for some hotter weather to push along tomatoes, peppers, beans, squash, beets, carrots, cucumbers, and other vine crops.

U.S. As Of August 6, 2000: Below-normal temperatures slightly hindered crop development in the Corn Belt and Southeast, while above-normal temperatures

stimulated row crop development and ripened small grains in the Great Plains. Dry weather aided the small grain harvest in the Great Plains and Pacific Northwest, but also increased moisture shortages. In the Corn Belt, moisture supplies remained mostly adequate due to additional precipitation during the week, especially east of the Mississippi River. Isolated severe storms damaged some crops in the central Corn Belt. Crops in the Southeast and lower Mississippi Valley received much needed precipitation, but rainfall varied considerably and moisture shortages remained widespread. Ninety-six percent of the crop was at or beyond the silking stage, slightly ahead of last year's early development and more than 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Forty-two percent was at or beyond the dough stage, compared with 36 percent last year and considerably ahead of the average for this date. Above-normal temperatures promoted rapid development in the Great Plains. Seasonal temperatures aided silking progress in Michigan and Pennsylvania. Fields rapidly entered the dough stage across most of the Corn Belt, despite cooler-than-normal weather. Moisture supplies remained adequate for development across most of the Corn Belt. However, moisture shortages increased in parts of the western Corn Belt and adjacent parts of the Great Plains. Severe storms produced damaging wind, rain, and hail in isolated areas of the central and eastern Corn Belt. Ninety-two percent of the soybean crop was blooming, slightly ahead of last year's early progress, and more than 1 week ahead of the average for this date. Near normal temperatures stimulated blooming in the lower Mississippi Valley. Sixty-nine percent of the acreage was setting pods, 10 percentage points ahead of last year's pace and far ahead of the 47 percent normal for this date. Fields rapidly entered the pod setting stage in the Corn Belt and Great Plains, despite slightly below-normal temperatures. The winter wheat harvest advanced to 95 percent complete, about 1 week ahead of last year and the average for this date. Dry weather aided rapid progress in the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest. The oat harvest advanced to 59 percent complete, 4 percentage points ahead of last year and 14 percentage points ahead of the average for this date. Harvest was very active across the northern Corn Belt. Progress was limited by slow ripening fields in Ohio and by wet weather in Pennsylvania.

Weather Data For Week Ending August 13, 2000

Reporting Station	Weekly Temperature				Growing Degree Days From April 1				Rainfall - Values Are For A 24-Hour Period Ending 7:00 A.M., In Inches									
	High	Low	Avg	Dep From Norm	40 Degrees		50 Degrees		August							For Week	From April 1	
					Days	Dep From Norm	Days	Dep From Norm	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total	Total	Dep From Norm
Erie	86	55	70	-1	2901	21	1693	44	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.74	24.47	8.69
Warren	84	54	68	-1	2816	93	1596	73	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.78	21.86	3.59
Franklin	84	51	70	0	3002	199	1735	152	1.88	0.02	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.03	0.00	2.30	22.92	4.48
Clearfield	82	51	69	1	2830	83	1616	92	2.10	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	2.19	19.99	2.50
Pittsburgh	83	57	71	0	3223	86	1942	113	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.01	2.04	24.87	9.26
Rector	85	50	70	-1	2980	-157	1754	-75	2.61	0.31	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.95	21.77	6.16
Altoona	86	55	70	-1	3038	22	1791	52	0.88	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.93	17.76	2.20
Emporium	85	55	69	1	2873	126	1649	125	0.70	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.94	19.31	1.82
Wellsboro	80	53	66	-1	2445	119	1297	108	0.65	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.37	1.05	18.14	3.78
State College	83	58	71	0	3161	148	1895	133	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.04	0.84	14.09	-1.41
Williamsport	88	56	72	0	3188	15	1887	18	0.17	0.46	0.05	0.02	0.24	0.03	0.27	1.24	25.23	8.86
Selinsgrove	88	55	74	2	3160	80	1882	85	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.04	0.56	20.46	3.59
Montrose	83	51	67	-1	2508	32	1340	10	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.50	26.24	9.09
Scranton	84	58	71	0	2970	-66	1716	-41	0.58	0.04	0.23	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.89	20.49	5.52
Allentown	89	60	76	3	3280	-13	2003	17	0.22	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.25	0.61	20.90	3.21
Reading	90	59	75	1	3381	105	2075	98	0.08	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.30	16.39	-2.04
Harrisburg	93	62	77	2	3681	161	2338	151	0.30	0.03	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.61	18.35	2.05
Biglerville	90	59	75	0	3283	-66	1984	-57	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.47	16.40	0.59
Lancaster	90	60	75	0	3364	-156	2065	-122	0.30	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	11.68	-4.62
Philadelphia	92	62	78	2	3718	66	2365	54	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.28	1.11	17.39	0.36

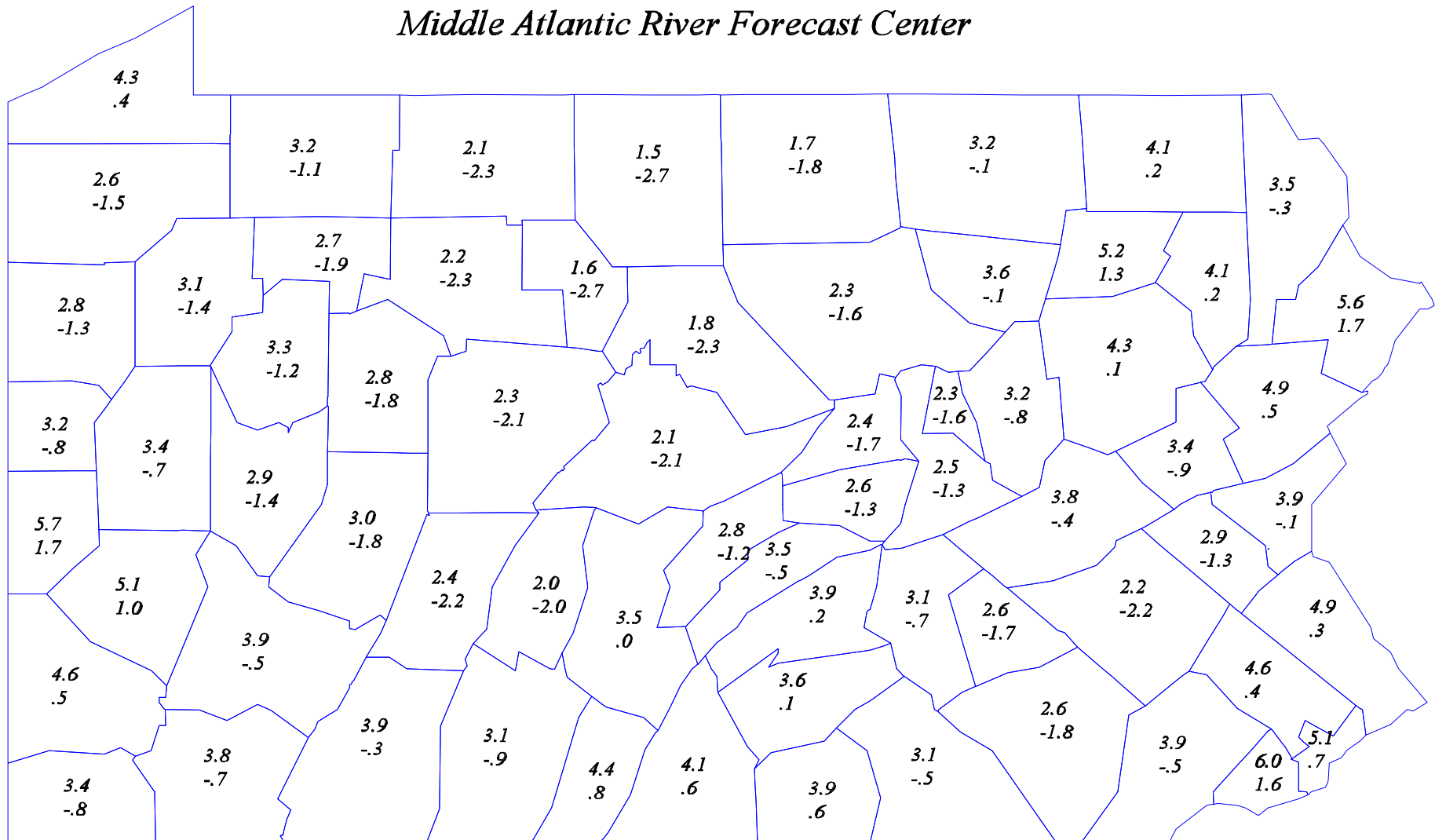
Weather Summary By: National Weather Service, State College, Pennsylvania

Crop Summary By: Eric D. Stout, Agricultural Statistician, NASS

Mean Areal Precipitation (Top) & Departure from Normal (Bottom)

7/1/2000 through 7/31/2000

Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center



PA Crop Progress For Week Ending August 13, 2000

	Current Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>			
Fall Plowing	9	4	10	9
Corn, Silk	81	79	88	86
Corn, Dough	45	35	43	40
Corn, Dent	8	4	8	5
Oats, Ripe	81	64	92	88
Oats, Harvested	49	41	77	67
Potatoes, Harvested	9	8	20	11
Alfalfa, 2 nd Cutting	84	81	93	85
Alfalfa, 3 rd Cutting	33	25	54	41
Timothy Clover, 2 nd Cutting	53	32	48	47
Peaches, Harvested	46	41	46	41
Apples, Harvested	18	17	15	13

PA Crop Condition For Week Ending August 13, 2000

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>				
Corn	0	1	14	46	39
Soybeans	0	1	4	41	54
Quality of Hay Made	2	15	44	35	4
Pasture Conditions	0	4	22	62	12
Peaches	2	5	17	72	4
Apples	2	4	24	63	7

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